

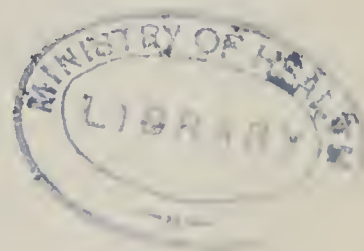
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MELTON AND BELVOIR

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT



of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING

31st. DECEMBER, 1953.

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MELTON & BELVOIR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L   R E P O R T  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
1953

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, I deal briefly in this report with matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine :-

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ... ..	113,025
Registrar General's estimate of population ..	18,785
Number of inhabited houses ... ..	5,592
Rateable value ... ..	£ 85,612
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£ 324. 16. 2.

VITAL STATISTICS

		Males	Females	Totals
Births	- Legitimate	163	139	302
	Illegitimate	9	5	14
		172	144	316
Still Births -	Legitimate	3	5	8
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		3	5	8

		<u>Rate for</u> <u>District.</u>	<u>Rate for</u> <u>England &amp; Wales.</u>
Birth Rate	... ..	18.4	15.5
Death Rate	... ..	7.5	11.4
Infant Mortality Rate			
per 1,000 live births	... ..	31.6	26.8

The Birth Rate is higher than the Rate for the country as a whole and the Death Rate is very low.

Infant Mortality. Six deaths occurred in infants under four weeks of age, the majority being due to congenital causes.

<u>CAUSES OF DEATH.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	2
Tuberculosis other	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	2
" " Lung	-	-
" " Breast	-	3
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	9	14
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	9
Coronary Disease, Angina	13	7
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	3
Other Heart Disease	17	21
Other Circulatory Disease	3	-
Influenza	-	1
Pneumonia	-	2
Bronchitis	3	-
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	2	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-
Congenital Malformations	3	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
All Other Accidents	1	2
Suicide	3	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	83	75
	<hr/>	<hr/>

#### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

J. Young, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Camb.)

Medical Officer of Health for the Leicestershire and Rutland  
Combined Districts in which this District is included.

L. Hesford, Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, Sanitary Inspector's  
Examination Joint Board, Meat Inspector, Smoke Inspector.

W. P. Elliott - Additional Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Sanitary Inspector  
Examination Joint Board.

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following examinations have been carried out at the  
Public Health Laboratory, Leicester :-

Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Throat Swab	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Nose Swab	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Urine	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Blood	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ear Swab	..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	145
Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

40 samples of water were submitted to the Leicester City  
Health Laboratory for bacteriological and chemical  
analyses.



PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND  
OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1953.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total cases Notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	247	-	-
Whooping Cough	30	-	-
Scarlet Fever	17	12	-
Pneumonia	10	1	2
Dysentery	5	1	-
Poliomyelitis	2	2	-
Erysipelas	1	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-

There was no epidemic of serious infectious disease.  
The Scarlet Fever cases were of a mild type.

I am pleased to note that again there was no case of  
Diphtheria.

Particulars of the Immunisation work carried out are given  
at the end of the report.

AGE GROUPS.

Disease	Under 1	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{3}{5}$	$\frac{5}{10}$	$\frac{10}{15}$	$\frac{15}{25}$	$\frac{25}{35}$	$\frac{35}{45}$	$\frac{45}{65}$	65 and over	Total.
Measles	14	64	66	82	12	4	1	2	2	-	247
Whooping Cough	2	7	8	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Scarlet Fever	-	1	6	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	17
Pneumonia	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	3	1	2	10
Dysentery	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	5
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

Tuberculosis.

Age Groups.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	1	-	-	5	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
25 - 35	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### Water.

Number of samples taken for analysis :-

(a) from wells	...	...	...	...	...	40
(b) from piped supply	...	...	...	...	...	9

Results of samples taken :-

from wells	-	satisfactory	8
		unsatisfactory	32
from piped supply	-	satisfactory	9
		unsatisfactory	nil.

Number of wells :

(a) closed	...	...	...	...	...	-
(b) cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	6

Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water ... 123

Number of Parishes without a piped water supply ... 4

Number of houses now on piped supply ... 2515

Number of Parishes and part Parishes with piped water supply :-

(a) from public mains	...	...	...	...	19
(b) from private reservoirs	...	...	...	...	4

Sampling of some of the public wells has been carried out.

### Existing Water supplies.

The Parishes of Ab Kettleby, Asfordby, Broughton and Dalby, Clawson and Harby, Stathern, Waltham (Thorpe Arnold Ward), Eaton (Eastwell Ward), Somerby (part), Burton and Dalby (Burton Ward), Sproxton (Sproxton and Saltby Wards), Gaddesby, Garthorpe, Grimston, Bottesford, Wymondham, Hoby, Knossington (Knossington Ward) and parts of Scalford and Buckminster (Sewstern Ward) are supplied from the Council's Mains.

Schemes have been prepared and it is hoped they will be constructed during 1954 for water supplies to the parishes of Redmile, Waltham (Waltham Ward), Frisby, Croxton Kerrial, Somerby (Burrough Ward). As a long term policy the Council have agreed to be constituent on the proposed River Dove Water Board, and will purchase in bulk from that Authority, to provide an adequate water supply for the whole of the area. Pending construction of the Dove scheme it is the Council's intention to submit for approval to the Ministry schemes for the supply of water from temporary sources to such parts of their area as are not already supplied, the mains laid being so designed to fit in with the River Dove Scheme.

Stand pipes are not provided, the services being laid on to the Consumer's premises.

There is no indication of any tendency to plumbo solvency.

The Parishes of Belvoir, Buckminster (Buckminster Ward) are supplied by private piped supplies.

The rest of the District is supplied from public and private wells. The majority of the wells are 'shallow wells' of doubtful quality, and in many cases insufficient in quantity during dry periods.

Shortages have been experienced, particularly in Barkestone and Great Dalby, and Waltham and Croxton Kerrial, and it has been necessary to cart water to these villages during the summer and autumn months.

#### Drainage and Sewerage.

Number of cesspools in the District at the end of 1953	...	...	...	...	289
Number of cesspools abolished during the year	...	...	...	...	10
Number of cesspools constructed during the year	...	...	...	...	4

Again there are no new works of major importance to report, but schemes are being prepared for the parishes of Rotherby, Wymondham, Bottesford, Scalford, Harby and Hose. The provision of adequate sewerage arrangements for the parishes without such an amenity are becoming urgently necessary, both from a Public Health point of view and from the finance angle, as only by the provision of Sewage Disposal Works can the heavy cost of nightsoil collection be reduced. It is also desirable that the water courses, ditches, which are at present polluted by sewage discharges should be cleaned up as soon as possible.

#### Closet Accommodation.

Total Number in the District at the end of 1953 :-

(a) Privies	...	...	...	...	...	336
(b) Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	2,891
(c) Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	2,345

#### Public Cleansing.

During the year the Public Cleansing Service has been maintained and efficient service given with a fleet of modern vehicles comprising :-

1 Dennis	11 cu. yd. Refuse Collector
1 S.D.	11 cu. yd. Refuse Collector
1 S.D.	13 cu. yd. Refuse Collector
2 S.D.	Combined Nightsoil and Cesspool Emptiers - 800 gal. capacity.

and

1 Dennis Refuse collector on Salvage work.

Trailers were purchased during the year for the collection of salvaged paper, during normal Refuse Collections.

Household refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and no difficulty has been experienced here. The disposal of nightsoil is to farms, when it is ploughed into the land as manure. There is at present no difficulty



in disposal, and in view of the amount of ploughed land it is not anticipated that this will create a problem for the next year or two. The cost of nightsoil collections however, is continually rising and the Council should, as soon as possible, give serious consideration to the conversion of pail closets to water closets in order to reduce the cost of this service.

The present system of conversion is by voluntary methods and has resulted in the conversion of 47 pail closets to water closets during the year. This has no material influence in reducing the cost of the service, but if it were possible to arrange for the conversion of villages en-bloc a considerable saving would no doubt result.

The collection of salvage was continued during the year and the following weights of salvage were collected :-

29 tons Baled Paper  
45 tons Baled Tins

The revenue produced from this source during the year was £407. 17. 1d.

The Council is continuing to empty cesspools on request from the occupiers at a standard charge. There is, however, no collection of the contents of privy middens within the area.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given under this Heading are for all purposes including particulars given elsewhere in this report:-

Total number of complaints received	...	...	608
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	127

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-visits</u>
Animal keeping	6	2
Bakehouses	51	45
Dairies and cowsheds	148	60
Drainage works	382	266
Dwelling Houses (all purposes)	1,812	374
Food premises	247	90
Rats and mice destruction	1,439	723
Refuse collection and disposal	471	69
Shops	136	64
Schools	14	14
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.,	31	20
Verminous premises	8	5
Water supplies	78	51
Workshops, etc.,	20	17
Other inspections	56	40
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	4,899	1,840
	<hr/>	<hr/>



## Notices

<u>Preliminary</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Other</u>
Outstanding on 1st. January	Nil	Nil
Issued during the year	28	11
Complied with during the year	28	11
Statutory action necessary	Nil	Nil
Outstanding on 31st. December	Nil	Nil

## Statutory

Outstanding on 1st January	Nil	Nil
Issued during the year	3	Nil
Complied with during the year	3	Nil
Outstanding on 31st December	Nil	Nil

## Shops

Action taken during the year under the provision of the Shops Act, 1950 :-

	<u>Outstanding from previous year.</u>	<u>Defects found.</u>	<u>Defects remedied.</u>	<u>Outstanding 31st. December.</u>
Sanitary conveniences	Nil	5	5	Nil
Temperature	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ventilation	Nil	4	4	Nil

## Regulated Buildings

Common Lodging Houses - There are no Common Lodging Houses in the area.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., - There are 11 Vans in the District and 31 inspections were made.

These Vans are kept in a reasonably clean condition, several of them being occupied by very good families who are forced by the present housing shortage to take this means of accommodation.

## H O U S I N G .

### Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts )      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...      811
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose      864
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ...      ...      ...      418
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose      418
3.      Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...      ...      4

4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	182
5.	Number of Demolition Orders made.. ...	4

Remedy of Defects during the Year Without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	38
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Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

1.	(a) Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	264
	(b) Number of families dwelling therein ...	286
	(c) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	1,147
2.	Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	168
3.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	26
4.	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	108

Provision of New Houses during the Year.

56 new houses were completed and occupied at the end of 1953. There were about 470 applicants on the Council Housing List at the end of the year and 168 new applications were received during 1953.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

<u>Milk Supply</u>	<u>Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk other than Cowkeepers.</u>
Number on the Register	68
Number of inspections of premises	124
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	Nil
Number of contraventions found during the year	4
Number of contraventions remedied during the year	4
Number of contraventions outstanding at 31st. December	Nil

### Total Contraventions

	<u>Outstanding from previous year</u>	<u>Found during Year</u>	<u>Remedied during Year</u>	<u>Outstanding 31st. Dec.</u>
Cleansing	Nil	5	5	Nil
Structural alterations	Nil	1	1	Nil
Utensils	Nil	1	1	Nil
Other	Nil	2	2	Nil

145 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological and biological examination. 131 were satisfactory and 14 unsatisfactory when subjected to the bacteriological test. 141 were satisfactory biologically and Brucellæ Abortus was found in 4.

No action was necessary under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

### The Milk (Special Designations) Order

Two supplementary licences have been issued in respect of pasteurised milk. One bottling licence for 'Tuberculin Tested' milk was granted.

### Meat and Other Foods

#### Private Slaughter Houses :-

Number of knacker yards in the district	...	1
Number of visits to Knacker yards	...	4

### Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc..

Number of inspections	... ..	185
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### Places Where Food (other than Meat) are kept or prepared for sale.

Number of inspections	... ..	152
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### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. No action was taken by the Council under this Section during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN YOUNG

Medical Officer of Health.

10, High Street,  
Melton Mowbray.





LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

National Health Service Act, 1946.

Section 26 - Diphtheria Immunisation.

Melton & Belvoir Rural District.

Number of children who were immunised during the period  
1st. January - 31st. December, 1953.

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<u>Age at 31.12.53</u> <u>(Born in year).</u>		<u>Primary</u> <u>Immunisation.</u>	<u>Booster</u> <u>Dose</u>
Under 1	1953	13	-
1	1952	143	-
2	1951	18	-
3	1950	20	-
4	1949	12	17
5	1948	4	107
6	1947	1	22
7	1946	-	5
8	1945	1	8
9	1944	-	-
10	1943	1	2
11	1942	-	-
12	1941	-	-
13	1940	-	-
14	1939	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		<u>215</u>	<u>151</u>

